

From Katherine <weirk001@hawaii.rr.com>

Sent Friday, October 15, 2010 11:28 pm

To hihwmanagementplan@noaa.gov

Subject Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary



To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my opposition to your plans of expanding the reach of the HIHW National Marine Sanctuary. It seems that you have fallen into the trap of elevating the animals lives and safety above that of the people of Kauai who fish to provide for their families, to those who provide incredible experiences for those who visit this island from distant places and to those who choose the ocean for their recreation, I.e., surfing, snorkeling, and scuba diving, among others.

This seems to be just another big government power grab; another way to control the people...all in the name of saving the earth and it's animals...forget about man. You fail to take into account the incredible mind of man that has helped to envision and create so much for our world; minds that, if given a chance, will come up with sound solutions to these problems you say exist. I, on the other hand, do not believe that the whales, monk seals or dolphin are being harmed or that their populations are diminishing, in fact, there is evidence that they are increasing.

Your agenda and the agenda of most environmental groups give no credit to the fact that nature is self-correcting, that the design of earth's systems can never be fully understood by man. By restricting man in such huge ways you may be upsetting the natural order so much that results could be much worse than just letting it take care of itself. You make man God-like by asserting that we are responsible for all of the ups and downs in nature...when you haven't even begun to understand what you are trying to control.

I request that you step back from your position of wanting to control where and when and if we may use the ocean for our livelihood. You are infringing on the freedom of the citizens of Hawaii who have fished these waters long before your organization ever existed. There is much more value in being RESPONSIBLE stewards than in your organization taking away the liberty of the people of Hawaii. You should be ashamed for even considering this heavy handed move.

Respectfully submitted,  
Katherine A. Weir

